



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

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Third District

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Fifth District

October 3, 2008

To: Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "WTF", is written over the printed name of William T. Fujioka.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH REQUEST TO APPOINT JOHN VIERNES, JR. TO THE POSITION OF ADMINISTRATOR, SPECIALIZED HEALTH PROGRAM FOR ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Consistent with Board-approved policy on management appointments, the Department of Public Health (DPH) requests authorization to appoint Mr. John Viernes, Jr., to the position of Administrator, Specialized Health Program for DPH's Alcohol and Drug Program Administration (ADPA), at an annual salary of \$145,941.12 (\$12,161.76 per month). This salary places him on step 13 of Salary Range S13.

In this position, Mr. Viernes will function as the Director of ADPA responsible for all matters concerning the administration of the County's alcohol and drug abuse program. Responsibilities will include, among other things: development, implementation, coordination, administration, monitoring and evaluation of alcohol and drug treatment, prevention and policy development. As Director of ADPA, Mr. Viernes will play a key role in establishing and maintaining rapport with County administrative officials, community groups, regulatory agencies, and federal, State, and local organizations. Additionally, he will provide recommendations to the Director of DPH on alcohol and drug policies.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Each Supervisor
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DPH reports that Mr. Viernes' career spans 30 years in health management with the last 15 years employed by the state of Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (SSA). Since 1998, Mr. Viernes has held the post of Deputy Director for the Indiana Family and SSA, Division of Mental Health and Addiction, Office of Addiction and Emergency Services. In addition to being extremely knowledgeable in all aspects of alcohol and drug policies, legislation, prevention and treatment methods, contract monitoring, and allocation of resources to community agencies, DPH advises that Mr. Viernes has served as a subject matter expert speaker and/or panelist in various forums relating to alcohol and drug.

Mr. Viernes holds a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from Brigham Young University and a Masters of Education in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of South Carolina. A copy of Mr. Viernes' resume and additional information provided by DPH are attached.

DPH indicates that while salary placement for Mr. Viernes at step 13 of Salary Range S13 represents a 39 percent increase from his current salary, it is consistent with the level of experience and knowledge that he brings to the position as well as to offset the higher cost of living in Los Angeles County. Based on the information provided by DPH regarding Mr. Viernes' experience and qualifications, we concur with DPH's request to appoint him to the position of Administrator, Specialized Health Program at the requested salary.

In accordance with the policy on managerial appointments, unless this Office is informed otherwise from your offices by October 17, 2008, we will advise DPH that authorization has been granted to proceed with Mr. Viernes' appointment to Administrator, Specialized Health Program at an annual salary of \$12,161.76 effective October 20, 2008.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this appointment, please call me or your staff may contact Tami Omoto-Frias of this Office at (213) 893-9741.

WTF:SRH:SAS
MLM:TOF:yb

Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Director and Health Officer of Public Health
Director of Personnel

MANAGEMENT APPOINTMENT REQUEST

Candidate Name: JOHN VIERNES, JR.

Employee No.: N/A

(Check one) NEW HIRE: ☒ PROMOTION: ☐

I. FACILITY/PROGRAM

A. Provide organization chart & highlight the position – *Attach electronic copy of organization chart*

SEE ATTACHMENT

B. Describe where the position fits into the management organizational structure:

This position is within the Department of Public Health (DPH) and serves as the Director of the Alcohol and Drug Programs (ADP) Division. The position reports directly to the DPH Chief Deputy.

C. Describe the duties and responsibilities which reflect the scope and complexity of the position:

The Director, Alcohol and Drug Programs Administration (ADPA), has oversight and management responsibility for directing the development, implementation, coordination, administration, monitoring and evaluation of Countywide Alcohol and Drug Programs including treatment, prevention and policy development. This entails responsibility for directing, managing and administering all phases of Alcohol and Drug Programs to ensure the continuous delivery of services to the public. The Director, ADP provides the management of all aspects associated with multiple alcohol and other drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services. The ADP Division budget is approximately \$254 million and includes funding for 217 positions.

The essential job functions of the Director, ADPA includes the oversight and evaluation of the entire planning, development, implementation, and administration of ADPA's operations, programs, and services. This position further: Directs the preparation of reports and recommendations on major alcohol and other drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery related policy and legislative matters regarding alcohol and drug programs and services for the Director of Public Health, other County departments, as well as federal, State, and local entities; Maintains continuing relationships with County administrative officials, community groups, regulatory agencies, and federal, State, and local organizations in all matters concerning the administration of County alcohol and other drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery programs; Plans and implements program changes to meet identified alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery needs and to solve system-wide problems; and, Assists in formulating departmental policies and in directing their implementation related to alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

The Director, ADPA also: Directs the management of over 600 contracts involving alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services; Plans, organizes, assigns, directs and evaluates, through subordinate supervisors, the work of ADPA Divisions including administrative functions such as budget preparation and control, personnel selection and development, and report preparation; Directs the development of proposed policies to improve substance abuse control, conducts analyses of legislation affecting alcohol and drug abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services and makes recommendations for change; and, Ensures that services provided by the department meet federal and State regulations and standards; and ensures that contract services meet mandated standards and guidelines.

D. Indicate the candidate's unique qualifications, special skills or abilities, work background or experience, etc.:

John Viernes, Jr.'s, health management career spans 30 years of broad work experience and in depth programmatic knowledge and expertise gained in public service. For the last 15 years, he has worked for the state of Indiana Family and Social Services Administration (SSA) where he is presently the Deputy Director for the Indiana Family and SSA, Division of Mental Health and Addiction, Office of Addiction and Emergency Services. He has held the post since November 1998 and reports to the Director of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction. In his current capacity, Mr. Viernes is responsible to direct the planning for mental health and addiction treatment and prevention services. This includes direct development of public policy in the form of legislation, administrative rules and division policy. He also directs and approves planning with constituent populations for input into strategic planning initiatives for providing mental health and addictions treatment and prevention services and serves as the SSA designate for Indiana state substance abuse treatment and prevention and as the State Methadone Authority.

His other responsibilities include serving as Indiana state grant contact for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant ('95-present); principle investigator for the State Treatment Needs Assessment Grant (2001-2004); State Project Officer for State Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (2005); and state project executive sponsor for Access to Recovery Grant (2007). In addition, he oversees a variety of grants and federal cooperative agreements, including Drug Abuse Services Information System, State Incentive Grants for substance abuse, as well as numerous federal disaster management grants through FEMA and the Center for Mental Health Services. Mr. Viernes is also charged to direct and develop policy and program initiatives regarding problem and compulsive gambling services.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Viernes served three years as Assistant Deputy Director, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health, Office of Transitional Services where he directed the allocation of resources to community agencies for the provision of Behavioral Health, Addictions, and Prevention Services and provided oversight for the allocation of resources, from federal block grants and the state budget appropriations. He also directed and reviewed Federal Block Grant initiatives; Reviewed and approved enrollment rates for managed care providers; Developed rules and policies regarding programs and services; and Developed a process for approval of managed behavioral health care system provided by public funds for seriously mentally ill adults, seriously emotionally disturbed children, and chronically addicted individuals.

His Indiana Family and Social Services Administration career also includes service as Deputy Director, Division of Disability, Aging and Rehabilitative Services, Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services with responsibility to direct the operation of a statewide service structure for people with developmental disabilities, including community and institutional services funded by state and federal dollars. The agency budget at that time was approximately \$150 million dollars.

Before coming to Indiana, Mr. Viernes' early professional work experience includes 14 years in healthcare management positions in the state of South Carolina (S.C.). His service in the state consists of a background in various community, university and state agencies, including the S.C. Department Of Health and Environmental Control, S.C. Department of Mental Retardation, and the University of South Carolina.

E. Provide the candidate's résumé or curriculum vitae – Attach electronic copy

SEE ATTACHMENT

F. Identify highest paid subordinate reporting to this position

Name: Wayne Sugita	Employee #:	Title: Program Director, Alcohol
Base Monthly Salary: \$9,062.780	Base Annual Salary: \$108,753.36	Salary Range: S12, Step 5

G. Identify management position above the position requested

Name: Jonathan E. Freedman	Employee #:	Title: Chief Deputy Director, Public Health
Base Monthly Salary: \$15,438.39	Base Annual Salary: \$185,260.68	Salary Range: R21

II. HUMAN RESOURCES

Certify that the position is vacant and budgeted – *Attach Item Control*

YES ☒ NO ☐

Verify current salary of the individual for whom the request is being submitted.

CURRENT BASE SALARY: Month: \$7,442.35 Annual: \$89,308.18 (plus a 20.5% benefit stipend for a total gross annual salary of \$107,616.35)

NEW HIRE OR PROMOTION: Designate amount of proposed monthly salary.

PROPOSED SALARY: Monthly: \$12,717.29 Annually: \$152,607.48* Salary Range: S13, Step 16

*** NOTE:**

- The percentage increase reflects a cost of living differential derived by the comparison of a professional annual salary of \$90,000.00 in Indianapolis, Indiana to the equivalent current cost of living expenses in Los Angeles, California.
- The proposed annual salary of \$152,607 corresponds to the average of two separate online quotations that factored in the key costs of food, housing, utilities, transportation, health and miscellaneous expenses.
- One demographic cost of living analysis indicates the following: Los Angeles County is 108% more expensive than Indianapolis; Housing is the biggest factor in the cost of living difference; and Housing is 390% more expensive in Los Angeles than in Indianapolis.
- The Los Angeles COLA is 55.66% higher than the rest of the United States.
- The median home price in Los Angeles is approximately \$500,000.00, while the median home price in Indianapolis is \$128,200.00
- The Indianapolis COLA is 24.99% lower than the United States average.

Provide listing of all internal equivalent positions within facility/program – *Attach electronic copy*

SEE ATTACHMENT

Verify that candidate is listed on the appropriate Certification List and is reachable – *Attach electronic copy*

YES ☒ NO ☐

JOHN VIERNES JR.

EDUCATION:

1974 - 1976. University of South Carolina. Masters of Education. Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling.
1969 - 1971. Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. Bachelor of Science. Sociology.
1965 - 1967. University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii. Major: Secondary Education.

PRESENT POSITION:

Deputy Director, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health and Addiction, Office of Addiction and Emergency Services. Nov. 1, 1998 to present. Reports to the Director of the Division of Mental Health and Addiction. Direct planning for mental health and addiction treatment and prevention services. Direct development of public policy in the form of legislation, administrative rules and division policy. Direct and approve planning with constituent populations for input into strategic planning initiatives for providing mental health and addictions treatment and prevention services. Serve as the SSA designate for substance abuse treatment and prevention (the Director of the Division is appointed by the Governor) and as the State Methadone Authority. Serve as state grant contact for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant ('95-present), Principle investigator for the State Treatment Needs Assessment Grant (2001-2004), State Project Officer for State Prevention Framework/State Incentive Grant (2005) and state project executive sponsor for Access to Recovery Grant (2007). Other grants and federal cooperative agreements received are Drug Abuse Services Information System, State Incentive Grants for substance abuse date, and numerous federal disaster management grants through FEMA and the Center for Mental Health Services. Direct and develop policy and program initiatives regarding problem and compulsive gambling services.

PREVIOUS POSITIONS:

Assistant Deputy Director, Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Mental Health, Office of Transitional Services. January 1, 1995 to October 31, 1998.

Responsibilities:

Direct the allocation of resources to community agencies for the provision of Behavioral Health, Addictions, and Prevention Services. Provide oversight for the allocation of resources, from federal block grants and the state budget appropriations. Direct and review Federal Block Grant initiatives. Review and approve enrollment rates for managed care providers, develop rules and policies regarding programs and services and develop a process for approval of manage behavioral health care system provided by public funds, for seriously mentally ill adults,, seriously emotionally disturbed children, and chronically addicted individuals.

Deputy Director Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Disability, Aging and Rehabilitative Services, Bureau of Developmental Disabilities Services May 1993 to December 31, 1994..

Responsibilities:

Direct the operation of statewide service structure for people with developmental disabilities. Requires complex skills for management of a system that includes community and institutional services funded by state and federal dollars. Agency budget is approximately \$150 million dollars.

PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE:

Residential Program Administrator Pee Dee Regional Center Florence, S.C. Nov. 1990 to May 1993.

Responsibilities:

Direct the residential operation of 288 bed ICF/MR facility. Supervised professional, para-professional and direct care staff for all active treatment programs. Directed training for QMRPs and direct care staff to assure active treatment in the facility. Develop policies and

procedures to residential operations.

Health Facility Survey Supervisor. S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. December 1986 to November 1990.

Responsibilities:

Coordinates and conduct inspections, surveys, complaint investigations, and complete inspection and survey results for certification of ICF/MR programs. Supervised surveyors at the facility site and compiled all survey documents and evidence into deficiency reports. Assessed facilities on all conditions for participation in ICF/MR program. Interpret standards for ICF/MR facilities and other related state or federal regulations

Consultant Nursing Home Administrator. University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Disabled Student Services. Jan. 1986 to Dec. 1986.

Responsibilities:

Provide **Nursing Home Administrator** services to the University of South Carolina, Disabled Student Services. Developed and planned agenda to bring facility into full compliance with state and federal regulations for Intermediate Care Facilities. Provided broad analysis of problem areas and formulated plans for corrective action. Directed quality assurance to ensure continuing compliance.

Project Administrator. Columbia Health Care Inc. Columbia, SC. January 1985 to October 1985.

Responsibilities:

Develop new program services proposals for the elderly and handicapped. Performed feasibility studies to determine demand for new services and determine the marketability of the services. Performed financial analysis of proposed budgets and planned personnel needs for projects.

Director, Community Residential Services. S.C. Department of Mental Retardation, Midlands Region, Columbia, SC. September 1978 to January 1985.

Directed Community Residence programs and activities designed for the care, treatment, habilitation, and protection of clients who are developmentally disabled, living in Intermediate Care Facilities for the Mentally Retarded. Planned and developed budgets for eight facilities with operational and personnel budgets exceeding \$1.5 million. In addition, performed financial analysis for prospective private non-profit providers who were proposing additional ICF/MR services. Served as QMRP and as licensed Nursing Home Administrator. Directed and supervised the work of 53 employees.

Community Program Coordinator. S.C. Department of Mental Retardation. Columbia, S.C. Central Office. June 1976 to September 1978.

Responsibilities.

Coordinate planning, development, and implementation of a network of regionally based community programs serving developmentally disabled persons. Provided technical assistance to prospective vendors for proposal development, financial analysis, policy development and implementation of such community programs. Once funded provided on going consultation and monitoring.

Military Experience:

Personnel Specialist. US Army 1971 to 1974. Honorable Discharge.

Affiliations and Hobbies:

Member Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Board Member National Association State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD) NASADAD Region V (Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin) Director (2003-2005)

Senior 2d Degree Black Belt and Certified Taekwondo Instructor.

Youth Soccer Coach; Fishers Youth Soccer League 1994, 1995, 1996.

S.C. High School League Soccer Official - 1991 - 1993.

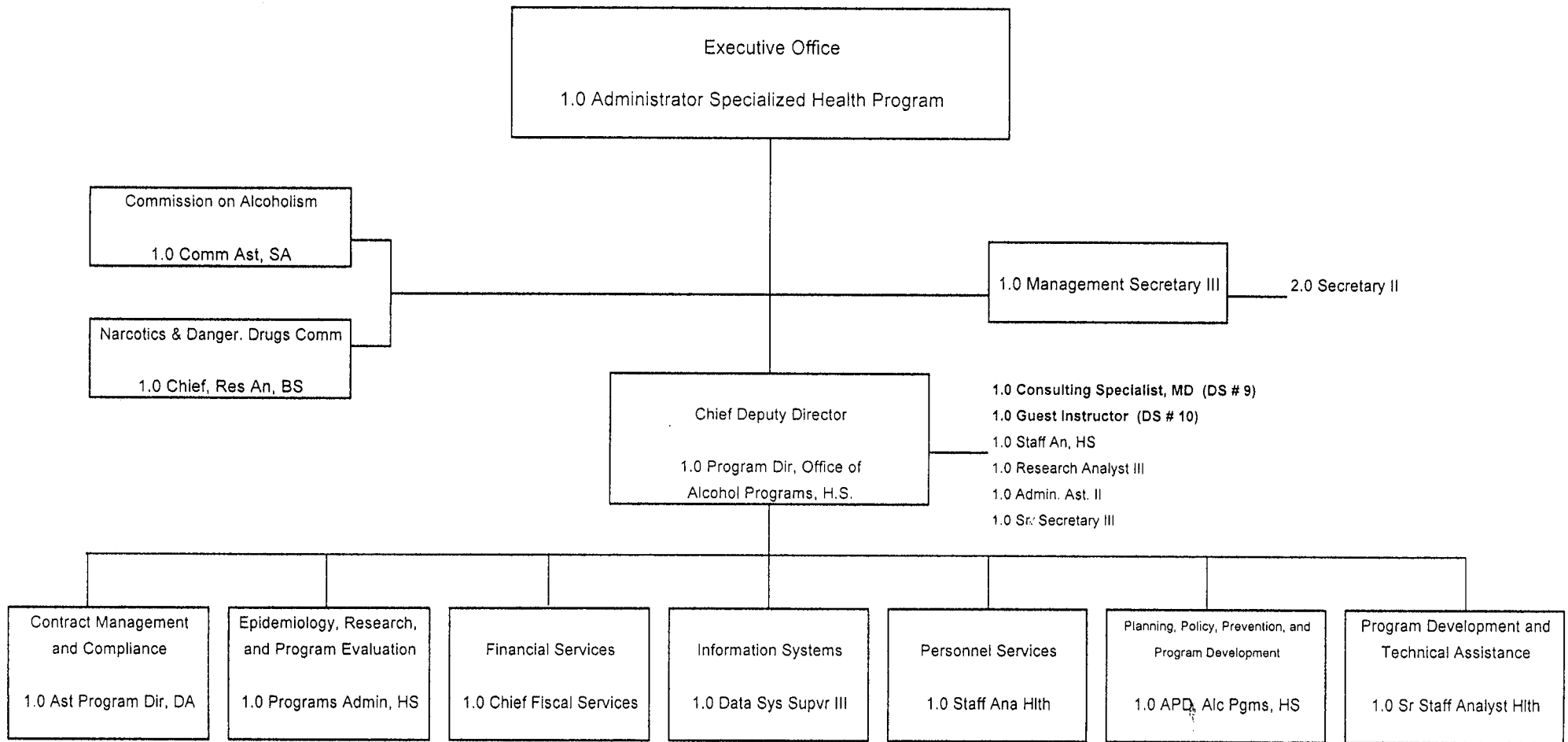
Executive Vice President Northeast Columbia Soccer Association. 1982 to 1984.

Fishing, vacationing and sports.

REFERENCES:

Furnished upon request.

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH
ALCOHOL AND DRUG PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION
2008-2009 BUDGET REQUEST



Bold Item being requested for FY 08/09

Exe BR 04/11/08